AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

1.   (Original) An information handling system comprising:

a motherboard;

components coupled to the motherboard and operable to process information;

a trusted bus operable to securely communicate information between the

components;

an integrated keyboard operable to accept user inputs;

an integrated pointing device operable to accept user inputs;

a microcontroller interfaced with the keyboard and pointing device, the

microcontroller operable to convert keyboard and pointing device user inputs into

HID packets and to embed the HID packets as messages on the trusted bus;

a state machine associated with the motherboard and interfaced with the trusted bus, the

state machine operable to extract the HID packets from the trusted bus; and

HID trusted registers interfaced with the state machine and operable to provide the HID

packets to one or more of the components.

2.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 1 wherein the trusted bus comprises a SMBus.

3.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 2 wherein the trusted bus comprises a dual SMBus for bi-directional communication between the state machine and the microcontroller.

4.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 1 wherein the trusted bus comprises a SPI bus.

5.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 1 further comprising:

an external controller interfaced with the motherboard, the external controller operable to

    accept user inputs from a external keyboard and to convert the external keyboard

    inputs into HID packets; and

HID non-trusted registers interfaced with the external controller and operable to provide

    the external keyboard input HID packets to one or more of the components.

6.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 5 wherein the components comprise a chip set for communicating with external devices and the state machine comprises firmware associated with the chipset.

7.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 1 wherein the integrated pointing device comprises a touchpad.

8.   (Original) A method for communicating user inputs to an information handling system, the method comprising:

    detecting user inputs at an integrated pointing device and an integrated keyboard;

    communicating the inputs to a common microcontroller;

    converting the inputs with the microcontroller into HID packets;

    embedding the HID packets as messages on an internal motherboard bus; and

    extracting the HID packets at the motherboard for processing.

9.   (Original) The method of Claim 8 wherein embedding the HID packets further comprises embedding the HID packets as SMBus messages on an SMBus coupled to the motherboard.

10.   (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein the SMBus comprises a dual SMBus for bidirectional communication between the microcontroller and motherboard.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein extracting the HID packets further comprises:

receiving the SMBus messages at a state machine associated with the motherboard; and

transferring SMBus messages having HID packets to HID registers accessible to one or more information processing components.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein the information handling system comprises a portable information handling system.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 12 further comprising:

detecting user inputs at an external input device;

communicating the external input device inputs to a second microcontroller;

converting the inputs with the microcontroller into HID packets for communication to the motherboard;

processing HID packets from the integrated pointing device and integrated keyboard as trusted packets; and

processing HID packets for the external input device as non-trusted packets.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 8 wherein the internal motherboard bus comprises a I2C bus.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 8 wherein the internal motherboard bus comprises a SPI bus.

16. **(Currently Amended)** A system for communicating trusted user inputs from a user input device to information processing components of an information handling system, the system comprising:

a **first** microcontroller operable to accept user inputs from an integrated keyboard and an integrated pointing device, to convert the user inputs into a format readable by processing components, and to embed the formatted user inputs into SMBus messages;

an SMBus interfaced with the microcontroller and operable to transfer the formatted user

inputs to a motherboard of the information handling system; ~~and~~

a processing component interfaced with the SMBus and operable to extract the formatted

user inputs from the SMBus messages; and

a second microcontroller operable to accept user inputs at an external keyboard and

to provide the external keyboard inputs to the motherboard through a non-

trusted communication channel.

17.   (Original) The system of Claim 16 wherein the formatted user inputs comprise
HID packets.

18.   (Original) The system of Claim 17 wherein the processing component interfaced
with the SMBus comprises a state machine and one or more HID registers.

19.   (Original) The system of Claim 18 wherein the SMBus comprises a dual SMBus
operable to communicate bi-directionally between the microcontroller and the state machine.

20.   **Canceled.**